

Amendments to Claims

1. (currently amended) A method of making a decorative aluminum automotive vehicle body ~~or decorative component parts for assembly into a said body~~, said method comprising:

making an automotive vehicle body structure ~~or a set of component parts for a said body structure~~ where visible surfaces of said body structure to be colored for consumer acceptance are formed of aluminum or aluminum alloys;

anodizing the surfaces of said body structure ~~or set of component parts~~ in an acid solution; and

coloring the anodized surfaces of said body structure ~~or component parts~~ in a process selected from the group of processes consisting of adsorptive coloring, electrolytic coloring, and interference coloring.

2. (currently amended) A method of making a decorative aluminum automotive vehicle body ~~or decorative component parts~~ as recited in claim 1, said method further comprising dipping the colored vehicle body ~~or colored component parts~~ in a solution of fluoride or silica compounds in the presence of nickel salts to cold seal the colored surfaces of said body or parts.

3. (currently amended) A method of making a decorative aluminum automotive vehicle body ~~or decorative component parts~~ as recited in claim 2, said method further comprising immersing said colored and cold sealed vehicle body ~~or cold sealed and colored component parts~~ in deionized water at a temperature of about 90°C to about 100°C to hot seal the surfaces of said body or parts.

4. (withdrawn) A decorative aluminum automotive vehicle body or decorative component parts made by the method recited in claim 1.

5. (withdrawn) A decorative aluminum automotive vehicle body or decorative component parts made by the method recited in claim 2.

6. (withdrawn) A decorative aluminum automotive vehicle body or decorative component parts made by the method recited in claim 3.

7. (currently amended) A method of making a decorative aluminum automotive vehicle body ~~or decorative component parts for assembly into a said body~~, said method comprising:

making an automotive vehicle body structure ~~or a set of component parts for a said body structure~~ where visible surfaces of said body structure to be colored for consumer acceptance are formed of aluminum or aluminum alloys;

cleaning, if necessary, said body structure ~~or said parts for said body structure~~ to remove natural oxide and other materials inhibitive of the following anodizing step; and

anodizing the surfaces of said body structure ~~or set of component parts~~ in an acid solution to form ~~to form~~ clear porous oxide surfaces about 10 to 25 μm in thickness on surfaces of said body structure ~~or parts~~.

8. (currently amended) A method of making a decorative aluminum automotive vehicle body ~~or decorative component parts for assembly into a said body~~ as recited in claim 7 comprising coloring the anodized surfaces of said body structure or component parts by electrolytically depositing metal particles in the pores of said oxide surfaces.

9. (currently amended) A method as recited in claim 8 comprising coloring the anodized surfaces of said body structure ~~or component parts~~ by dipping said body ~~or parts~~ in an acidic aqueous bath of one or more inorganic salts of metals and electrolytically depositing metal particles in the pores of said oxide surfaces from said bath.

10. (original) A method as recited in claim 9 in which said inorganic salts are of one or more metals selected from the group consisting of cobalt, copper, nickel and tin.